



LIMONIUM PLANT NAMED 'DANLISADABLU'

Latin name of the genus and species of the claimed plant:

Limonium altaica

Variety denomination:

'Danlisadablue'

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar of *Limonium* plant, botanically known as *Limonium altaica*, hereinafter referred to by the 'Danlisadablue'.

Limonium, of the *Plumbaginaceae* family, is commonly known as sealavender. *Limonium* is found wild on sea coasts and marshes across the Northern Hemisphere.

The new cultivar originated from an open pollination of *Limonium* plants within a breeding program field, discovered in a controlled environment in Moshav Mishmar Hashiva, Israel. The female parent is a proprietary cultivar designated 'DLB' (unpatented). The male parent is unknown. 'Danlisadablue' was discovered and selected by the inventor, Gabriel Danziger, as a flowering plant within the progeny of the open pollination program in Moshav Mishmar Hashiva, Israel.

A sexual reproduction of the new cultivar by tissue culture was first performed in August, 2001 in Moshav Mishmar Hashiva, Israel, and has demonstrated that the combination of characteristics as herein disclosed for the new cultivar are firmly fixed and retained through successive generations of asexual reproduction. The new cultivar reproduces true-to-type.

BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The following traits have been repeatedly observed and are determined to be basic characteristics of 'Danlisadablue' which in combination distinguish this *Limonium* as a new and distinct cultivar:

- 5 1. Violet-blue flower color, RHS 93B;
2. Red-purple bud color; RHS 60C;
3. Stem height of 70-90 cm;
4. Panicle type stem branching; and
5. Yield of 6 to 10 stems per plant in the first flash.

10 'Danlisadablue' has not been observed under all possible environmental conditions. The phenotype of the new cultivar may vary significantly with variations in environment such as temperature, light intensity, and daylength without any change in the genotype of the plant. The following observations, measurements and values describe the new cultivar as grown in Moshav Mishmar Hashiva, Israel under

15 conditions which closely approximate those generally used in commercial practice.

Table 1 provides a comparison between plants of 'Danlisadablue' and plants of the parent, 'DLB' (unpatented).

Table 1

Trait	New Cultivar 'Danlisadablue'	Female Parent 'DLB' (unpatented)
Flower color	Violet-blue group, RHS 93B	Violet-blue group, RHS 93C
Number of Flowers	Approximately 30 flowers in full bloom	Approximately 30 flowers in full bloom
Growth and Branching Habit	Erect growth habit; panicle branching habit	Erect growth habit; panicle branching habit
Yield of Stems	6-10 stems per plant in the first flash	5-8 stems per plant in the first flash

Of the many commercial cultivars known to the present inventor, the most similar in comparison to 'Danlisadablue' is the cultivar 'Tall Emille' (unpatented). 'Danlisadablue' is distinct from 'Tall Emille' in its narrow shaped inflorescence compared to the open and wide shaped inflorescence of 'Tall Emille'.

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BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The accompanying photographs illustrate the overall appearance of the new *Limonium* showing the colors as true as is reasonably possible with color reproductions of this type. The first photograph shows a top view of a flowering 'Danlisadablue' plant. The second photograph shows a side view of a flowering 'Danlisadablue' plant.

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DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION

The following observations, measurements and values describe the new cultivar as grown in Moshav Mishmar Hashiva, Israel, in Mediterranean climate at sea level, under conditions which closely approximate those generally used in commercial practice. Irrigation and Fertilization use is common to commercial practice for *Limonium* plants. Color references are made to the Royal Horticultural Society Colour Chart (RHS) (published 2001) except where general colors of ordinary significance are used. Color values were taken under daylight conditions at approximately 10:00 AM in Moshav Mishmar Hashiva, Israel. The age of the plant described was 1 year old, in its second flush and the stem which used to determine the RHS colour was at 30-50% open flower stage.

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PLANT:

General Appearance and Form:

- Height: 70-90 cm
- Spread: 40-50 cm
- 5 Growth habit: Erect
- Growth rate: 7-9 weeks from planting to the first bloom.
- Branching habit and description: Panicle
- Flowering stem length: 80-90 cm
- Flowering Response: Day natural
- 10 Flowering Season: Year round, spring, summer and autumn in open field,
winter in a greenhouse.
- Winter Hardiness/weather tolerance: Frost tender
- Postproduction longevity: 2 weeks
- Rooting Habit: Tissue culture room
- 15 Time to initiate roots: Once tissue culture plantlets show small roots,
plantlets are transferred from the tissue culture
medium to a peat soil, then placed in 100% humid
condition for 7-14 days at 18-35° C, then the
plantlets are transferred to regular irrigation and
20 fertilization.
- Time to produce a rooted cutting: 30-45 days from the arrival from the
tissue culture laboratory until the plants are
ready to plant.
- Fragrance: None

STEMS:

Appearance: Panicle
Aspect: Stable, Erect
Length: 70-90cm
5 Diameter: Typical: 2 mm
Observed: 2 mm
Texture: Smooth
Color: Green Group, RHS 139A
Internode length: Typical: 10-15 cm
10 Observed: 10-15 cm

FOLIAGE:

Overall Shape of Leaf: Obovate
Apex: Obtuse
Base: Cuneate
15 Length: 15-30 cm
Width: 4-6 cm
Margin: Entire
Texture: Smooth
Color of Upper Surface:
20 Mature leaf: Green Group, RHS 136A
Immature leaf: Green Group, RHS 136A
Color of Lower Surface:
Mature leaf: Green Group, RHS 136B
Immature leaf: Green Group, RHS 136B

Venation: None

Petiole:

Length: 3-12 cm

Diameter: 3-4 mm

5 Color: Green Group, RHS 141C

INFLORESCENCE:

Flower type and habit: Erect, trumpet shaped

Flower size:

Diameter: 0.5-0.8 mm

10 Depth: 0.5 mm

Overall shape: Trumpet-shaped.

Calyx:

Shape: Tubular

Length: 0.5 mm

15 Width: 1 mm

Margin: Entire

Texture: Smooth

Color when opening: White, RHS 155A, at the base and violet-blue,
RHS 93C, at the top.

20 Color when fully open: White, RHS 155A, at the base and violet-blue,
RHS 93C, at the top.

Corolla:

Number of petals: 5

Shape: Round saucer-shaped

Diameter: 5-7 mm

Depth: Typical: 0.7 cm

Observed: 0.7 cm

Petals:

5 Length: 3 mm

Width: 1 mm

Overall shape: Oblong

Apex shape: Truncate

Base shape: Cuneate

10 Margin: Entire

Texture: Smooth

Color when opening:

Upper surface: Violet-Blue Group, RHS 93B

Lower surface: Violet-Blue Group, RHS 93B

15 Color when fully open:

Upper surface: Violet-Blue Group, RHS 93B

Lower surface: Violet-Blue Group, RHS 93C

Sepals:

Quantity: 4

20 Shape: Oval when stretched out and semi tubular on the plant.

Length: 2-4 mm

Width: 1-2 mm

Form: Alternate, very dense

Color: Green and transparent sepals cover the calyx.

Upper surface: Green, RHS 141C

Lower surface: Green, RHS 141C

Bud:

5 Color: Red, RHS 60 C

Shape: Oblong

Length: 2-3 mm

Diameter: 1 mm

10 Peduncle description: Borne from 2 Sepals, 4 mm long, smooth texture, green
color, RHS 141C).

REPRODUCTIVE ORGANS:

Stamen: 5 in number, white in color

Anthers: 5 in number, 0.5 – 1 mm in length; color brown-black

15 Pistil: 5 in number

Stigma: Filament, white in color

Style: Filament, white in color

Ovary: Green in color

Seeds:

20 Width: 1 mm

Length: 2 mm

Shape: Oval

Color: Brown

Fruit: White-brown in color

25 Pollen: Yellow in color

DISEASE RESISTANCE: Unknown

WEATHER TOLERANCE: Plants of the 'Danlisadablue' have exhibited good tolerance to draught, rain and wind, however flowering may cease during hot
5 periods (temperatures 30°C).